

## ABSTRACT

A messaging system that reduces communications bandwidth is disclosed.

10 Difference messages are constructed at a sender from a message and prior state information. The difference messages include information describing the difference between the content of the message and a portion of prior state information, such as a prior message. The difference messages, including a prior message identifier, are sent to the receiver in place of the message. The message is reconstructed at the receiver using

15 the corresponding difference message and the prior state information stored at the receiver. If the message reconstruction is unsuccessful, the sender is notified, and further required information is sent to the receiver.